GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1104
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2000
PRODUCTION OF SOYABEAN
SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to the excess rains particularly in the soyabean growing areas, the produce has been affected adversely both in terms of quantity and quality;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise particularly in Madhya Pradesh;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to help the farmers to fight the adversity;

(d) whether the Madhya Pradesh Government has requested the Union Government to relax the FAO- norms for procurement of the crop; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the decision of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Excessive rains in the month of October,1999 in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan etc. which isthe time of harvesting of soyabean crop, damaged the crop badly resulting in less production both in terms of quantity and quality particularly in the State of Madhya Pradesh. However, the estimated production ofsoyabean for the current year as well as that of last year (State-wise) is given as under :-

State	Estimated Production (in '000 tonnes) 1998-99	1999-2000
1. Andhra Pradesh	16.8	20.00
2. Arunachal Pradesh	3.4	
3. Gujarat	5.1	5.0
4. Himachal Pradesh	0.2	
5. Karnataka	36.0	43.0
6. Madhya Pradesh	4473.1	4454.0
7. Maharashtra	1471.9	1448.0
8. Meghalaya	0.8	
9. Mizoram	1.7	
10. Nagaland	13.0	
11. Orissa	1.0	1.0
12. Rajasthan	894.5	491.0
13. Sikkim	2.7	
14. Uttar Pradesh	21.7	35.0
15. West Bengal	0.5	3.0
16. Others	19.0	
All India	6942.4	6519.0

(c) to (e) The affected produce of soyabean was of lower standard than FAQ having more moisturecontent and discoloured grains which resulted in market price of soyabean below the Minimum Support Price.

In view of this there was a demand from farmers of Mdhya Pradesh to relax the FAQ standards so that theycould get the same price for this quality of soyabean as of FAQ varieties. As it was not practically feasible to procure one grade below FAQ, a technical sub-committee was set up in 1999 by the Government of India toreview the parametres for FAQ specifications for procurement of Oilseeds including soyabean under Price Support Scheme. The sub-committee after many deliberations revised the parametres for

adoption under Minimum support Price Scheme in respect of soyabean which is as follows:

FAQ = Fair Average Quality

S.No.	Special characteristics (% by weight per Quintal)	Maximum limit of tolerance		
		Existing FAQ	Proposed by Technical Committee	Recommended FAQ Standards
1.	Foreign matter & Impurities	1	2	2
2.	Shrivelled & Immature beans	3	5	5
3.	Damaged & weevilled beans	2	3	3
4.	Mechanically damaged beans (Split. Broken & crack)	10	15	15
5.	Moisture content	12	12	12

DEFINITIONS:

1. Foreign matter & Impurities includes dust, dirt, stones, lumps of earth, chaff, stem/straw or any other impurity

2. Shrivelled & immature beans means beans that are shrunk, out of shape or are not fully matured or developed and are often discoloured.

3. Damaged and weevilled beans means beans or pieces of these which have sprouts or are internally damaged as a result of heat and moisture, insect or microbial action.

4. Mechanically damaged beans means the split, broken and crack seeds.